

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a system and method for storing a single file
5 comprising multiple parts of content data and for selectively downloading at least one part
thereof, including: the relevant files out of a zip-archive instead of the whole archive; a chapter
instead of the whole book; the cover image out of an MP3 file; and the thumbnail of a jpg with
exif header. The storing of various parts of data about an entity in a single file also provides
the advantage of avoiding inconsistencies between the various parts. Often data and meta-data
10 are combined in one file (this is already done to avoid inconsistencies between the parts).
Examples in which this is currently done include: in one file have the whole image and its
thumbnail; MP3 files already can contain an image of the CD cover together with the music;
JPG files (with exif header) can contain meta-data (e.g. flash used, exposure) about the
photograph. Preferably, a file is organized according to the present invention with a table of
15 contents that describes the parts of the file in a way that enables partial download of the parts.